

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 6-13, 21, 22 and 24 are withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 16 and 25 are amended for clarity. No new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response arguments discussed during the personal interview with Examiner Huffman. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Huffman at the interview held January 11, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 3, 15 and 26 contain allowable subject matter.

II. Claim Objections

The Office Action objects to claim 3 because it is allegedly unclear. Claim 3 is amended to recite "wherein the control section controls the image forming device to discharge the rewritable image recording medium to a first and a second discharging tray," as suggested in the Office Action.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

III. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 16-20, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Japanese Laid-Open Application JP-A-4-39043 to Takagi in view of Japanese Laid-Open Application JP-200158797 A to Shishido et al. (Shishido). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites that the "control section controls the recording section to immediately form an output image on the rewritable image recording medium." As agreed to in the personal interview, this feature is not taught by Takagi and/or Shishido.

Claim 16 recites "immediately forming an output image on the rewritable image recording medium on which the test image has been recorded when the detected image characteristic value is within the allowable range." This feature is also not taught by Takagi and/or Shishido.

Claims 2, 5, 14 and 23 depend from claim 1 and claims 17-20 and 23 depend from claim 16. The dependent claims are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they depend, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejoinder

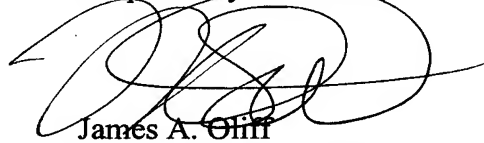
Because each of withdrawn claims 4, 6-13, 21, 22 and 24 depend from either elected claim 1 or elected claim 16, upon allowance of claims 1 and 16, rejoinder and allowance of claims 4, 6-13, 21, 22 and 24 is requested. See MPEP §821.04.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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